

#### THE WOODHULL LECTURE

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MARCH 1960

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(England). (The Crowther Report.) 1959. Pp. 519.

**Registrar General's Statistical Review of England and Wales for the Year 1957.** Part 3, Commentary. 1960. Pp. 299. *For the Year 1958.* Part 2. Tables, Population. 1960. Pp. 181.

**Wright, Helena.** *Contraceptive Technique.* Second Edition. 1959. Pp. 82.

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JANUARY 1960

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years for men and seventy-three years for women. Each of these has risen by about three years since the end of the Second World War. The crude death rate has remained the same at about eleven and a half per thousand during this time. As with crude marriage and birth rates, however, this is misleading; the ageing of the population has kept it high. The proportion of persons aged sixty-five and over was 11.7 per

cent in 1957 whereas in 1945 it was only 10.2 per cent. The disturbing feature of recent mortality experience is the failure of the rates for men in middle and older life to improve. The rate for the age-group fifty-five to sixty-four, for instance, which before the Second World War was twenty-three per thousand, is now (1957) still twenty-two per thousand. The corresponding figures for women have been sixteen and eleven.



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